

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2946

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EAGR, DR

SUBJECT: AGRARIAN REFORM

REF: SD 0925

1. IN INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH, PRESIDENT BALAGUER REAFFIRMED HIS DEDICATION TO "PACIFIC" AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM WHILE ADMITTING THAT SUCCESSES IN THIS AREA HAD BEEN "FURITFUL BUT NOT SPECTACULAR." HE PLACED SOME OF THE BLAME ON LANDHOLDERS' CONTINUING OPPOSITION TO HIS AGRARIAN REFORM PROPOSALS.

2. UNLIKE PREVIOUS YEARS WHEN HE PROPOSED SPECIFIC AGRARIAN REFORM LEGISLATION, PRESIDENT YESTERDAY MERELY GAVE INDICATION OF GODR'S PRIMARY AREAS OF CONCENTRATION DURING 1975. HE PROMISED TO

--MAKE A CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO REACQUIRE ALL THE STATE LANDS HELD BY PRIVATE PARTIES;

--ACQUIRE, BY PURCHASE, GRAZING LAND WHICH COULD BE BETTER USED FOR CROPS (BALAGUER TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO CHASTISE CONGRESS FOR ITS FAILURE TO PASS A GRAZING LANDS LAW RESENTED BY HIM IN 1974);

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--MOVE TO ABOLISH SHARECROPPING BY ACQUIRING SUCH LAND
FOR USE BY GODR'S AGRARIAN INSTITUTE (IAD).

3. COMMENT. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS REFLECTED HIS CONTINUING
MAJOR CONCERN WITH AGRARIAN REFORM AND WITH OPPOSITION TO
HIS PROGRAM BY LARGE LANDHOLDERS. HOWEVER, HE GAVE LESS
ATTENTION TO THIS SUBJECT THAN IN PREVIOUS NATIONAL DAY
SPEECHES.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

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